NEW BOUNDS FOR THE COMPANION OF OSTROWSKI'S INEQUALITY AND APPLICATIONS

WENJUN LIU

ABSTRACT. In this paper we establish some new bounds for the companion of Ostrowski's inequality for the case when $f' \in L^1[a, b]$, $f'' \in L^2[a, b]$ and $f' \in L^2[a, b]$, respectively. We point out that the results in the first and third cases are sharp and that some of these new estimations can be better than the known results. Some applications to composite quadrature rules, and to probability density functions are also given.

1. INTRODUCTION

An extensive literature deals with inequalities between an integral $\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt$ and its various approximations, such as trapezoidal approximation, midpoint approximation, Simpson approximation and so on. In 1938, Ostrowski established the following interesting integral inequality (see [21]) for differentiable mappings with bounded derivatives which generalizes the estimate of an integral by the midpoint rule:

Theorem 1.1. *Let* $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ *be a differentiable mapping on* (a, b) *whose derivative is bounded on* (a, b) *and denote* $\|f'\|_\infty = \sup\limits_{t \in (a,b)} |f'(t)| < \infty$. *Then for all* $x \in [a, b]$ *we have*

$$(1.1) \qquad \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \left[\frac{1}{4} + \frac{(x - \frac{a+b}{2})^2}{(b-a)^2} \right] (b-a)\|f'\|_\infty.$$

The constant $\frac{1}{4}$ *is sharp in the sense that it can not be replaced by a smaller one.*

In [13], Guessab and Schmeisser proved the following companion of Ostrowski's inequality:

Theorem 1.2. *Let* $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ *be satisfying the Lipschitz condition, i.e.,* $|f(t) - f(s)| \leq M|t - s|$. *Then for all* $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ *we have*

$$(1.2) \qquad \left| \frac{f(x) + f(a+b-x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \left[\frac{1}{8} + 2\left(\frac{x - \frac{3a+b}{4}}{b-a} \right)^2 \right] (b-a)M.$$

The constant $\frac{1}{8}$ *is sharp in the sense that it can not be replaced by a smaller one. In* (1.2), *the point* $x = \frac{3a+b}{4}$ *gives the best estimator and yields the trapezoid type inequality, i.e.,*

$$(1.3) \qquad \left| \frac{f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{b-a}{8} M.$$

The constant $\frac{1}{8}$ *in* (1.3) *is sharp in the sense mentioned above.*

Motivated by [13], Dragomir [9] proved some companions of Ostrowski's inequality, as follows:

Theorem 1.3. *Let $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be an absolutely continuous mapping on $[a, b]$. Then the following inequalities*

$$\left| \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right|$$

$$\leq \begin{cases} \left[\frac{1}{8} + 2 \left(\frac{x - \frac{3a+b}{4}}{b-a} \right)^2 \right] (b-a)\|f'\|_\infty, & f' \in L^\infty[a, b], \\ \frac{2^{1/q}}{(q+1)^{1/q}} \left[\left(\frac{x-a}{b-a} \right)^{q+1} + \left(\frac{\frac{a+b}{2} - x}{b-a} \right)^{q+1} \right]^{1/q} (b-a)^{1/q}\|f'\|_p, \\ \qquad p > 1, \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1 \quad and \quad f' \in L^p[a, b], \\ \left[\frac{1}{4} + \left| \frac{x - \frac{3a+b}{4}}{b-a} \right| \right] \|f'\|_1, & f' \in L^1[a, b] \end{cases}$$

hold for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$.

Recently, Alomari [1] studied the companion of Ostrowski inequality (1.2) for differentiable bounded mappings.

Theorem 1.4. *Let $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping in (a, b). If $f' \in L^1[a, b]$ and $\gamma \leq f'(x) \leq \Gamma, \forall\ x \in [a, b]$, then for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ we have*

$$(1.4) \qquad \left| \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \left[\frac{1}{16} + \left(\frac{x - \frac{3a+b}{4}}{b-a} \right)^2 \right] (b-a)(\Gamma - \gamma).$$

For other related results, the reader may be refer to [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28] and the references therein.

The main aim of this paper is to establish new estimations of the left part of (1.4) for the case when $f' \in L^1[a, b]$, $f'' \in L^2[a, b]$ and $f' \in L^2[a, b]$, respectively. It turns out that some of these new estimations can be better than the known results and that the results in the first and third cases are sharp. Some applications to composite quadrature rules, and to probability density functions are also given.

2. Main results

2.1. The case when $f' \in L^1[a, b]$ and is bounded.

Theorem 2.1. *Let $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping in (a, b). If $f' \in L^1[a, b]$ and $\gamma \leq f'(x) \leq \Gamma, \forall\ x \in [a, b]$, then for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ we have*

$$(2.1) \qquad \left| \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \left[\frac{b-a}{4} + \left| x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right| \right] (S - \gamma)$$

and

$$(2.2) \qquad \left| \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \left[\frac{b-a}{4} + \left| x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right| \right] (\Gamma - S),$$

where $S = (f(b) - f(a))/(b - a)$. If γ, Γ are given by

$$\gamma = \inf_{t \in [a,b]} f'(t), \quad \Gamma = \sup_{t \in [a,b]} f'(t),$$

then the constant $\frac{1}{4}$ in (2.1) and (2.2) is sharp in the sense that it can not be replaced by a smaller one.

Proof. Define the kernel $K(x, t)$ by

$$(2.3) \qquad K(x, t) := \begin{cases} t - a, & t \in [a, x], \\ t - \frac{a+b}{2}, & t \in (x, a + b - x], \\ t - b, & t \in (a + b - x, b], \end{cases}$$

for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$. Integrating by parts, we obtain (see [9])

$$(2.4) \qquad \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x, t) f'(t) dt = \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt.$$

We also have

$$(2.5) \qquad \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x, t) dt = 0$$

and

$$(2.6) \qquad \int_a^b f'(t) dt = f(b) - f(a).$$

From (2.4)-(2.6), it follows that

$$\frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x, t) f'(t) dt - \frac{1}{(b-a)^2} \int_a^b K(x, t) dt \int_a^b f'(t) dt$$

$$(2.7) \qquad = \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t) dt.$$

We denote

$$(2.8) \qquad R_n(x) = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x, t) f'(t) dt - \frac{1}{(b-a)^2} \int_a^b K(x, t) dt \int_a^b f'(t) dt.$$

If $C \in \mathbb{R}$ is an arbitrary constant, then we have

$$(2.9) \qquad R_n(x) = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b (f'(t) - C) \left[K(x, t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x, s) ds \right] dt,$$

since

$$\int_a^b \left[K(x, t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x, s) ds \right] dt = 0.$$

Furthermore, we have

$$(2.10) \qquad |R_n(x)| \le \frac{1}{b-a} \max_{t \in [a,b]} |K(x, t) - 0| \int_a^b |f'(t) - C| dt.$$

and

$$(2.11) \qquad \max_{t \in [a,b]} |K(x, t)| = \max \left\{ x - a, \frac{a+b}{2} - x \right\} = \frac{b-a}{4} + \left| x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right|, \quad x \in \left[a, \frac{a+b}{2} \right].$$

We also have (see [27])

$$(2.12) \qquad \int_a^b |f'(t) - \gamma| dt = (S - \gamma)(b - a)$$

and

$$(2.13) \qquad \int_a^b |f'(t) - \Gamma| dt = (\Gamma - S)(b - a).$$

Therefore, we obtain (2.1) and (2.2) by using (2.7)-(2.13) and choosing $C = \gamma$ and $C = \Gamma$ in (2.10), respectively.

For the sharpness of the constant $\frac{1}{4}$ in (2.1), assume that (2.1) holds with a constant $A > \frac{1}{4}$, i.e.,

$$(2.14) \qquad \left| \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \left[A(b - a) + \left| x - \frac{3a + b}{4} \right| \right] (S - \gamma).$$

For simplicity we take $a = 0, b = 1, x \in \left[\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2} \right]$ and choose $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ be small. If we choose $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ with

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} -\dfrac{\varepsilon^2}{2}, & t \in [0, x - \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2], \\[2mm] \dfrac{[t - (x - \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2)]^2}{2\varepsilon^2} - \dfrac{\varepsilon^2}{2}, & t \in [x - \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2, x - \varepsilon], \\[2mm] t - (x - \varepsilon), & t \in (x - \varepsilon, x - \varepsilon^2], \\[2mm] -\dfrac{(t - x)^2}{2\varepsilon^2} + \varepsilon - \dfrac{\varepsilon^2}{2}, & t \in (x - \varepsilon^2, x], \\[2mm] \varepsilon - \dfrac{\varepsilon^2}{2}, & t \in (x, 1], \end{cases}$$

then

$$f'(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \in [0, x - \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2], \\[2mm] \dfrac{t - (x - \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2)}{\varepsilon^2}, & t \in [x - \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2, x - \varepsilon], \\[2mm] 1, & t \in (x - \varepsilon, x - \varepsilon^2], \\[2mm] -\dfrac{t - x}{\varepsilon^2}, & t \in (x - \varepsilon^2, x], \\[2mm] 0, & t \in (x, 1], \end{cases}$$

which implies that f is differentiable in (a, b) and $\gamma = \inf\limits_{t \in [a,b]} f'(t) = 0$, and

$$S = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = \varepsilon, \quad \frac{f(x) + f(a + b - x)}{2} = \varepsilon - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2}, \quad \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(t)dt = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon(2 + \varepsilon^2 - 2x),$$

giving in (2.1) $\varepsilon x - \frac{\varepsilon^2 + \varepsilon^3}{2} \leq \varepsilon(A + x - \frac{1}{4})$. Therefore we get $A \geq \frac{1}{4}$ when $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ is chosen to be small enough.

The sharpness of the constant $\frac{1}{4}$ in (2.2) can be proved similarly. $\qquad\qquad\square$

Corollary 2.1. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.1 with $x = \frac{3a+b}{4}$, we have the trapezoid type inequalities*

$$(2.15) \qquad \left| \frac{f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right)}{2} - \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{b - a}{4}(S - \gamma),$$

$$(2.16) \qquad \left| \frac{f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right)}{2} - \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{b - a}{4}(\Gamma - S).$$

Corollary 2.2. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.1 with $x = a$, we have the trapezoid inequalities*

$$(2.17) \qquad \left| \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{b - a}{2}(S - \gamma),$$

$$(2.18) \qquad \left| \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b - a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{b - a}{2}(\Gamma - S).$$

Corollary 2.3. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.1 with* $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, *we have the midpoint inequalities*

$$(2.19) \qquad \left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{b-a}{2}(S-\gamma),$$

$$(2.20) \qquad \left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{b-a}{2}(\Gamma-S).$$

Remark 1. *We note that (2.17)-(2.18), and (2.19)-(2.20) can also be obtained by choosing* $x = a$ *and* $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$ *in [27, Theorem 3], respectively. In fact, in [27, Theorem 3], the inequalities*

$$\left| f(x) - \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right)\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{b-a}{2}(S-\gamma), \quad x \in [a,b]$$

$$\left| f(x) - \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right)\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{b-a}{2}(\Gamma-S), \quad x \in [a,b]$$

were proved. However, it is obvious that (2.15) and (2.16) give a smaller estimator than the above inequalities.

A new inequality of Ostrowski's type may be stated as follows:

Corollary 2.4. *Let* f *be as in Theorem 2.1. Additionally, if* f *is symmetric about the line* $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, *i.e.,* $f(a+b-x) = f(x)$, *then for all* $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ *we have*

$$(2.21) \qquad \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \left[\frac{b-a}{4} + \left| x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right|\right](S-\gamma),$$

$$(2.22) \qquad \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \left[\frac{b-a}{4} + \left| x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right|\right](\Gamma-S).$$

Remark 2. *Under the assumptions of Corollary 2.4 with* $x = a$, *we have*

$$(2.23) \qquad \left| f(a) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{b-a}{2}(S-\gamma),$$

$$(2.24) \qquad \left| f(a) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{b-a}{2}(\Gamma-S).$$

2.2. The case when $f'' \in L^2[a,b]$.

Theorem 2.2. *Let* $f : [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$ *be a twice continuously differentiable mapping in* (a,b) *with* $f'' \in L^2[a,b]$. *Then for all* $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ *we have*

$$(2.25) \quad \left| \frac{f(x)+f(a+b-x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{\pi}\left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}\|f''\|_2.$$

Proof. Let $R_n(x)$ be defined by (2.8). From (2.7), we get

$$R_n(x) = \frac{f(x)+f(a+b-x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt.$$

If we choose $C = f'((a+b)/2)$ in (2.9) and use the Cauchy inequality, then we get

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \left| f'(t) - f'\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \right| \left| K(x,t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x,s)ds \right| dt$$

$$(2.26) \qquad \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \left[\int_a^b \left(f'(t) - f'\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \right)^2 dt \right]^{1/2} \left[\int_a^b \left(K(x,t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x,s)ds \right)^2 dt \right]^{1/2}.$$

We can use the Diaz-Metcalf inequality (see [20, p. 83] or [27, p. 424]) to get

$$\int_a^b \left(f'(t) - f'\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \right)^2 dt \leq \frac{(b-a)^2}{\pi^2} \|f''\|_2^2.$$

We also have

$$\int_a^b \left(K(x,t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x,s)ds \right)^2 dt$$

$$(2.27) \qquad = \int_a^b K(x,t)^2 dt = \left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right)^2 \right] (b-a).$$

Therefore, using the above relations, we obtain (2.25). $\qquad\qquad \square$

Corollary 2.5. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.2 with $x = \frac{3a+b}{4}$, we have the trapezoid type inequality*

$$(2.28) \qquad \left| \frac{f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}\pi} \|f''\|_2.$$

Corollary 2.6. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.2 with $x = a$, we have the trapezoid inequality*

$$(2.29) \qquad \left| \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{3}\pi} \|f''\|_2.$$

Corollary 2.7. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.2 with $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, we have the midpoint inequalities*

$$(2.30) \qquad \left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{3}\pi} \|f''\|_2.$$

Remark 3. *We note that (2.29) and (2.30) can also be obtained by choosing $x = a$ and $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$ in [27, Theorem 4], respectively. In fact, in [27, Theorem 4], the inequality*

$$\left| f(x) - \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2} \right) \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b-a} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{3}\pi} \|f''\|_2, \quad x \in [a,b]$$

was proved. However, it is obvious that (2.28) gives a smaller estimator than the above inequality.

The other new inequality of Ostrowski's type may be stated as follows:

Corollary 2.8. *Let f be as in Theorem 2.2. Additionally, if f is symmetric about the line $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, i.e., $f(a+b-x) = f(x)$, then for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ we have*

$$(2.31) \qquad \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{\pi} \left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \|f''\|_2.$$

Remark 4. *Under the assumptions of Corollary 2.8 with $x = a$, we have*

$$(2.32) \qquad \left| f(a) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{3}\pi} \|f''\|_2.$$

2.3. The case when $f' \in L^2[a,b]$.

Theorem 2.3. *Let $f : [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be an absolutely continuous mapping in (a,b) with $f' \in L^2[a,b]$. Then for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ we have*

$$\left| \frac{f(x) + f(a+b-x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right|$$

$$(2.33) \qquad \leq (b-a)^{-1/2} \left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \sqrt{\sigma(f')},$$

where $\sigma(f')$ is defined by

$$\sigma(f') = \|f'\|_2^2 - \frac{(f(b) - f(a))^2}{b-a} = \|f'\|_2^2 - S^2(b-a)$$

and S is defined in Theorem 2.1. Inequality (2.33) is sharp in the sense that the constant $\frac{1}{48}$ of the right-hand side cannot be replaced by a smaller one.

Proof. Let $R_n(x)$ be defined by (2.8). From (2.7), we get

$$R_n(x) = \frac{f(x) + f(a+b-x)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt.$$

If we choose $C = \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f'(s)ds$ in (2.9) and use the Cauchy inequality and (2.27), then we get

$$|R_n(x)|$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b \left| f'(t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f'(s)ds \right| \left| K(x,t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x,s)ds \right| dt$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{b-a} \left[\int_a^b \left(f'(t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f'(s)ds \right)^2 dt \right]^{1/2} \left[\int_a^b \left(K(x,t) - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b K(x,s)ds \right)^2 dt \right]^{1/2}$$

$$(2.34) \quad \leq \sqrt{\sigma(f')} \left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} (b-a)^{-1/2}.$$

The sharpness of the constant $\frac{1}{48}$ in (2.33) can be obtained in a particular case for $x = a$ or $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$ which has been proved in [18, Theorem 3 and Remark 2] and [12, Propositions 2.3 and 2.6]. $\square$

Corollary 2.9. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.2 with $x = \frac{3a+b}{4}$, we have the trapezoid type inequality*

$$(2.35) \qquad \left| \frac{f\left(\frac{3a+b}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{a+3b}{4}\right)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{4\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{\sigma(f')}.$$

Corollary 2.10. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.2 with $x = a$, we have the sharp trapezoid inequality*

$$(2.36) \qquad \left| \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2} - \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{2\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{\sigma(f')}.$$

Corollary 2.11. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.2 with $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, we have the sharp midpoint inequalities*

$$(2.37) \qquad \left| f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{2\sqrt{3}}\sqrt{\sigma(f')}.$$

Remark 5. *We note that (2.36) and (2.37) are also given in [12, Propositions 2.3 and 2.6] and [18, Remark 2]. However, it is obvious that (2.35) gives a smaller estimator, and can neither be obtained from [27, Theorem 3 and Remark 2] for any special case, nor from [12, Propositions 2.3 and 2.6].*

Another inequality of Ostrowski's type may be stated as follows:

Corollary 2.12. *Let f be as in Theorem 2.3. Additionally, if f is symmetric about the line $x = \frac{a+b}{2}$, i.e., $f(a + b - x) = f(x)$, then for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$ we have*

$$(2.38) \qquad \left| f(x) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le (b-a)^{-1/2}\left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}\sqrt{\sigma(f')}.$$

Remark 6. *Under the assumptions of Corollary 2.12 with $x = a$, we have*

$$(2.39) \qquad \left| f(a) - \frac{1}{b-a}\int_a^b f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{2\sqrt{3}}\sqrt{\sigma(f')}.$$

3. Application to Composite Quadrature Rules

Let $I_n : a = x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_{n-1} < x_n = b$ be a partition of the interval $[a, b]$ and $h_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$ $(i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, n-1)$. Consider the general quadrature formula

$$(3.1) \qquad S(f, I_n) = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=0}^{n-1}\left[f\left(\frac{3x_i + x_{i+1}}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{x_i + 3x_{i+1}}{4}\right)\right] h_i.$$

Theorem 3.1. *Let $f : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable mapping in (a, b). If $f' \in L^1[a, b]$ and $\gamma \le f'(x) \le \Gamma, \forall\ x \in [a, b]$, then we have*

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = S(f, I_n) + R(f, I_n)$$

and the remainder $R(f, I_n)$ satisfies the estimates

$$(3.2) \qquad |R(f, I_n)| \le \frac{1}{4}\sum_{i=0}^{n-1}(S_i - \gamma)h_i^2$$

and

$$(3.3) \qquad |R(f, I_n)| \le \frac{1}{4}\sum_{i=0}^{n-1}(\Gamma - S_i)h_i^2,$$

where $S_i = (f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i))/h_i, i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, n-1$.

Proof. Applying (2.15) to the interval $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$, then we get

$$\left| \frac{1}{2}\left[f\left(\frac{3x_i + x_{i+1}}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{x_i + 3x_{i+1}}{4}\right)\right] h_i - \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(t)dt \right| \le \frac{h_i^2}{4}(S_i - \gamma)$$

for $i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, n-1$. Now summing over i from 0 to $n-1$ and using the triangle inequality, we get (3.2). In a similar way, we get (3.3). $\qquad\qquad\square$

Remark 7. *It is obvious that the estimations obtained in Theorem 3.1 are better than those of [27, Theorem 7] due to a smaller error.*

Theorem 3.2. *Let $h_i = x_{i+1} - x_i = h = \frac{b-a}{n}$ $(i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, n-1)$ and let $f : [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be a twice continuously differentiable mapping in (a,b) with $f'' \in L^2[a,b]$. Then we have*

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = S(f, I_n) + R(f, I_n)$$

and the remainder $R(f, I_n)$ satisfies the estimate

$$(3.4) \qquad\qquad |R(f, I_n)| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{5/2}}{4\sqrt{3}\pi n^2} \|f''\|_2.$$

Proof. Applying (2.28) to the interval $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$, then we get

$$\left| \frac{h}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{3x_i + x_{i+1}}{4} \right) + f\left(\frac{x_i + 3x_{i+1}}{4} \right) \right] - \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(t)dt \right| \leq \frac{h^{5/2}}{4\sqrt{3}\pi} \left[\int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} (f''(t))^2 dt \right]^{1/2}$$

for $i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, n-1$. Now summing over i from 0 to $n-1$, and using the triangle inequality and the Cauchy inequality, we get

$$\left| \frac{h}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left[f\left(\frac{3x_i + x_{i+1}}{4} \right) + f\left(\frac{x_i + 3x_{i+1}}{4} \right) \right] - \int_a^b f(t)dt \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{h^{5/2}}{4\sqrt{3}\pi} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left[\int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} (f''(t))^2 dt \right]^{1/2} \leq \frac{h^{5/2}}{4\sqrt{3}\pi} \sqrt{n} \left[\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} (f''(t))^2 dt \right]^{1/2} = \frac{(b-a)^{5/2}}{4\sqrt{3}\pi n^2} \|f''\|_2.$$

Therefore, (3.4) is obtained. $\qquad\qquad\square$

Theorem 3.3. *Let $h_i = x_{i+1} - x_i = h = \frac{b-a}{n}$ $(i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, n-1)$ and let $f : [a,b] \to \mathbb{R}$ be an absolutely continuous mapping in (a,b) with $f' \in L^2[a,b]$. Then we have*

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = S(f, I_n) + R(f, I_n)$$

and the remainder $R(f, I_n)$ satisfies the estimate

$$(3.5) \qquad\qquad |R(f, I_n)| \leq \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}n} \sqrt{\sigma(f')}.$$

Proof. Applying (2.35) to the interval $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$, then we get

$$\left| \frac{h}{2} \left[f\left(\frac{3x_i + x_{i+1}}{4} \right) + f\left(\frac{x_i + 3x_{i+1}}{4} \right) \right] - \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(t)dt \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{h^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}} \left[\int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} (f'(t))^2 dt - \frac{(f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i))^2}{h} \right]^{1/2}$$

for $i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, n-1$. Now summing over i from 0 to $n-1$, using the triangle inequality and using the Cauchy inequality twice, we get

$$\left| \frac{h}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left[f\left(\frac{3x_i + x_{i+1}}{4} \right) + f\left(\frac{x_i + 3x_{i+1}}{4} \right) \right] - \int_a^b f(t) dt \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{h^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left[\int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} (f'(t))^2 dt - \frac{(f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i))^2}{h} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\leq \frac{h^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{n} \left[\|f'\|_2^2 - \frac{n}{b-a} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i))^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\leq \frac{h^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{n} \left[\|f'\|_2^2 - \frac{(f(b) - f(a))^2}{b-a} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$= \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}n} \sqrt{\sigma(f')}.$$

Therefore, (3.5) is obtained. □

4. Application to probability density functions

Now, let X be a random variable taking values in the finite interval $[a, b]$, with the probability density function $f : [a, b] \to [0, 1]$ and with the cumulative distribution function

$$F(x) = Pr(X \leq x) = \int_a^x f(t) dt.$$

The following results hold:

Theorem 4.1. *With the assumptions of Theorem 2.1, we have*

$$(4.1) \qquad \left| \frac{1}{2}[F(x) + F(a+b-x)] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \leq \left[\frac{b-a}{4} + \left| x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right| \right] \left(\frac{1}{b-a} - \gamma \right)$$

and

$$(4.2) \qquad \left| \frac{1}{2}[F(x) + F(a+b-x)] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \leq \left[\frac{b-a}{4} + \left| x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right| \right] \left(\Gamma - \frac{1}{b-a} \right),$$

for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$, where $E(X)$ is the expectation of X.

Proof. By (2.1) and (2.2) on choosing $f = F$ and taking into account

$$E(X) = \int_a^b t \, dF(t) = b - \int_a^b F(t) dt,$$

we obtain (4.1) and (4.2). □

Corollary 4.1. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 4.1 with $x = \frac{3a+b}{4}$, we have*

$$\left| \frac{1}{2} \left[F\left(\frac{3a+b}{4} \right) + F\left(\frac{a+3b}{4} \right) \right] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \leq \frac{b-a}{4} \left(\frac{1}{b-a} - \gamma \right)$$

and

$$\left| \frac{1}{2} \left[F\left(\frac{3a+b}{4} \right) + F\left(\frac{a+3b}{4} \right) \right] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \leq \frac{b-a}{4} \left(\Gamma - \frac{1}{b-a} \right).$$

Theorem 4.2. *With the assumptions of Theorem 2.2, we have*

$$(4.3) \qquad \left| \frac{1}{2}[F(x) + F(a+b-x)] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \le \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{\pi} \left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \|f'\|_2$$

for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$.

Proof. By (2.25) on choosing $f = F$ and taking into account

$$E(X) = \int_a^b t dF(t) = b - \int_a^b F(t) dt,$$

we obtain (4.3). $\qquad\qquad\square$

Corollary 4.2. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 4.2 with $x = \frac{3a+b}{4}$, we have*

$$\left| \frac{1}{2} \left[F\left(\frac{3a+b}{4} \right) + F\left(\frac{a+3b}{4} \right) \right] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \le \frac{(b-a)^{3/2}}{4\sqrt{3}\pi} \|f'\|_2.$$

Theorem 4.3. *With the assumptions of Theorem 2.3, we have*

$$(4.4) \qquad \left| \frac{1}{2}[F(x) + F(a+b-x)] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \le (b-a)^{-1/2} \left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{48} + \left(x - \frac{3a+b}{4} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \sqrt{\sigma(f)},$$

for all $x \in [a, \frac{a+b}{2}]$, where $\sigma(f) = \|f\|_2^2 - \frac{1}{b-a}$.

Proof. By (2.33) on choosing $f = F$ and taking into account

$$E(X) = \int_a^b t dF(t) = b - \int_a^b F(t) dt,$$

we obtain (4.4). $\qquad\qquad\square$

Corollary 4.3. *Under the assumptions of Theorem 4.3 with $x = \frac{3a+b}{4}$, we have*

$$\left| \frac{1}{2} \left[F\left(\frac{3a+b}{4} \right) + F\left(\frac{a+3b}{4} \right) \right] - \frac{b - E(X)}{b-a} \right| \le \frac{(b-a)^{1/2}}{4\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{\sigma(f)}.$$

References

[1] M. W. Alomari, A companion of Ostrowski's inequality with applications, Transylv. J. Math. Mech. **3** (2011), no. 1, 9–14.

[2] M. W. Alomari, A companion of Ostrowski's inequality for mappings whose first derivatives are bounded and applications in numerical integration, RGMIA Res. Rep. Coll., 14 (2011) article 57.

[3] M. W. Alomari, A generalization of companion inequality of Ostrowski's type for mappings whose first derivatives are bounded and applications in numerical integration, RGMIA Res. Rep. Coll., 14 (2011) article 58.

[4] G. A. Anastassiou, Ostrowski type inequalities, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **123** (1995), no. 12, 3775–3781.

[5] G. A. Anastassiou and J. A. Goldstein, Higher order Ostrowski type inequalities over Euclidean domains, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **337** (2008), no. 2, 962–968.

[6] N. S. Barnett, S. S. Dragomir and I. Gomm, A companion for the Ostrowski and the generalised trapezoid inequalities, Math. Comput. Modelling **50** (2009), no. 1-2, 179–187.

[7] S. S. Dragomir, A companions of Ostrowski's inequality for functions of bounded variation and applications, RGMIA Res. Rep. Coll., 5 (2002), Supp., article 28.

[8] S. S. Dragomir, Ostrowski type inequalities for functions defined on linear spaces and applications for semi-inner products, J. Concr. Appl. Math. **3** (2005), no. 1, 91–103.

[9] S. S. Dragomir, Some companions of Ostrowski's inequality for absolutely continuous functions and applications, Bull. Korean Math. Soc. **42** (2005), no. 2, 213–230.

[10] S. S. Dragomir, Ostrowski's type inequalities for continuous functions of selfadjoint operators on Hilbert spaces: a survey of recent results, Ann. Funct. Anal. **2** (2011), no. 1, 139–205.

[11] S. S. Dragomir and A. Sofo, An integral inequality for twice differentiable mappings and applications, Tamkang J. Math. **31** (2000), no. 4, 257–266.

[12] J. Duoandikoetxea, A unified approach to several inequalities involving functions and derivatives, Czechoslovak Math. J. **51(126)** (2001), no. 2, 363–376.

[13] A. Guessab and G. Schmeisser, Sharp integral inequalities of the Hermite-Hadamard type, J. Approx. Theory **115** (2002), no. 2, 260–288.

[14] V. N. Huy and Q. -A. Ngô, New bounds for the Ostrowski-like type inequalities, Bull. Korean Math. Soc. **48** (2011), no. 1, 95–104.

[15] W. J. Liu, Several error inequalities for a quadrature formula with a parameter and applications, Comput. Math. Appl. **56** (2008), no. 7, 1766–1772.

[16] W. J. Liu, Some weighted integral inequalities with a parameter and applications, Acta Appl. Math. **109** (2010), no. 2, 389–400.

[17] W. J. Liu, Q. L. Xue and S. F. Wang, New generalization of perturbed Ostrowski type inequalities and applications, J. Appl. Math. Comput. **32** (2010), no. 1, 157–169.

[18] Z. Liu, Note on a paper by N. Ujević, Appl. Math. Lett. **20** (2007), no. 6, 659–663.

[19] Z. Liu, Some companions of an Ostrowski type inequality and applications, JIPAM. J. Inequal. Pure Appl. Math. **10** (2009), no. 2, Article 52, 12 pp.

[20] D. S. Mitrinović, J. E. Pečarić and A. M. Fink, *Inequalities involving functions and their integrals and derivatives*, Mathematics and its Applications (East European Series), 53, Kluwer Acad. Publ., Dordrecht, 1991.

[21] A. Ostrowski, Über die Absolutabweichung einer differentiierbaren Funktion von ihrem Integralmittelwert, Comment. Math. Helv. **10** (1937), no. 1, 226–227.

[22] M. Z. Sarikaya, On the Ostrowski type integral inequality, Acta Math. Univ. Comenian. (N.S.) **79** (2010), no. 1, 129–134.

[23] M. Z. Sarikaya, New weighted Ostrowski and Čebyšev type inequalities on time scales, Comput. Math. Appl. **60** (2010), no. 5, 1510–1514.

[24] E. Set and M. Z. Sarıkaya, On the generalization of Ostrowski and Grüss type discrete inequalities, Comput. Math. Appl. **62** (2011), no. 1, 455–461.

[25] K.-L. Tseng, S.-R. Hwang and S. S. Dragomir, Generalizations of weighted Ostrowski type inequalities for mappings of bounded variation and their applications, Comput. Math. Appl. **55** (2008), no. 8, 1785–1793.

[26] K.-L. Tseng, S.-R. Hwang, G.-S. Yang and Y.-M. Chou, Weighted Ostrowski integral inequality for mappings of bounded variation, Taiwanese J. Math. **15** (2011), no. 2, 573–585.

[27] N. Ujević, New bounds for the first inequality of Ostrowski-Grüss type and applications, Comput. Math. Appl. **46** (2003), no. 2-3, 421–427.

[28] S. W. Vong, A note on some Ostrowski-like type inequalities, Comput. Math. Appl. **62** (2011), no. 1, 532–535.

(W. J. Liu) College of Mathematics and Statistics, Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, Nanjing 210044, China

E-mail address: wjliu@nuist.edu.cn